

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend paragraphs [0021] and [0033] as follows:

[0021] FIG. 3A is a perspective view of the beam 140 where the spacer 142, at one end thereof separated from the distal end 346, is depicted. The beam 140 has an elongated aperture 342 along a portion of its length. The elongated aperture 342 has a width sufficient to enable the post 222 of the base 110 to pass therethrough, but not so wide that when the fixation mechanism, such as the nut 160, is attached to the post 222, that the fixation mechanism would not secure the beam 140 to the base 110 at a desired location of the beam 140 relative to the base 110. Rather, the width is such that the post 222 passes through the aperture 342, and is engaged by the nut 160, or other fixation mechanism, to hold the beam 140 to the base 110.

[0033] FIG. 5A shows a side view of an embodiment of the implant 100 of the invention implanted between the S1 and the L5 vertebrae. As evidenced in this figure, the spacer 142 is positioned so that it abuts the spinous process 510 of the L5 vertebrae. The width of the spacer 142 is such that it enables the spacer 142 to engage the spinous process of the L5 vertebrae while enabling the mechanical load of the L5 vertebrae to be spread out over the spacer 142.

Please amend the Abstract beginning on page 23, at paragraph [0039] as follows:

[0039] ~~The present~~ Embodiments of the invention ~~is include~~ an implant for the lumbosacral region of the spine. The implant alleviates pain and increases lumbosacral stability while being minimally invasive. ~~The In an embodiment of the invention, the device is adapted to be attached to the S1 vertebrae while the~~ beam of the implant engages the spinous process of the L5 vertebrae to spread the mechanical load from the vertebrae through the device.